



ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL SECONDARY SCHOOL ATTAINMENT REPORT
AREA COMMITTEE



DUNOON GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JUNE 2023

<u>School Name</u>	Dunoon Grammar School
<u>School Address</u>	Ardenslate Road, Dunoon, PA23 8LU
<u>Head Teacher</u>	David Mitchell

CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL

Dunoon Grammar School has a very long and distinguished history spanning over 350 years of growth, of which high standards of academic and personal development have been the hallmarks.

Dunoon Grammar School is a mixed sex, interdenominational school which caters for pupils aged from eleven to eighteen years of age and serves the area of Cowal. Catchment is rural in nature and includes two large primary schools in Dunoon and 9 other primary schools.

There are 742 pupils on the school roll. The teaching staff compliment is 58.2FTE. The Senior Leadership Team comprises of the Head Teacher and four Depute Head Teachers. There are 8 Principal Teacher Curriculum and 4 Heads of House (Guidance).

In our school we are committed to providing appropriate learning opportunities for the young people, both in and out with school, and to secure positive destinations for all of our students. This is done in partnership with parents/carers and takes into account the needs of our young people.

Our SIMD ranges from SIMD1 to SIMD 6.

The pupil equity funding for session 2022-23 was £80,000. We have used this money to build on the excellent work that we started in our wellbeing hub. Our wellbeing officer has introduced a structured mental health strategy working with See me, we have employed a youth worker, a life coach and introduced a number of Principal Teacher posts to support improvement and to close the attainment gap. These Principal teachers include, PT DYW, PT Learning and Teaching and PT Raising attainment.

S3 ACEL Attainment in Literacy and Numeracy

School	Level	% Achieved				
		Reading	Writing	L&T	Literacy	Numeracy
Dunoon Grammar School	Third Level or better	77.8	71.9	76.3	68.1	89.6
Argyll & Bute	Third Level or better	88.3	87.0	88.2	83.9	87.8
Dunoon Grammar School	Fourth Level	26.7	25.9	30.4	25.9	58.5
Argyll & Bute	Fourth Level	49.8	47.6	51.5	45.9	57.6

S3 ACEL – Gaelic (if relevant)

School	Level	% Achieved				
		Gaelic Reading	Gaelic Writing	Gaelic L&T		
Dunoon Grammar School	Third Level or better	80	80	80		
Dunoon Grammar School	Fourth Level	20	20	20		

Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength in BGE Attainment:

Our Numeracy results at 3rd and 4th level are consistency above the Argyll and Bute Average.

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development in BGE Attainment:

Reading, writing, listening and talking and literacy are all considerably lower than the A&B average. In extensive discussion with the English department, this is a result of lack of staff understanding and awareness of 3rd and 4th level leading to a lack of professional confidence in selecting an appropriate level achieved. The English department has taken steps to rectify this for next session - namely the implementation of moderation sessions and clearer course plans that allow for more appropriate assessment opportunities.

Gaelic comments

Our Gaelic department continues to thrive with 80% of the cohort achieving level 3.

National Qualifications – Pass rates

NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	2021-22 A-C				
	Number of Presentations	Number Attaining A-C	% Attaining A-C	Argyll and Bute % Attaining A-C	National % Attaining A-C
Advanced Higher	45	33	73%	85.50%	82.60%
Higher	314	246	78%	80.90%	80.30%
National 5	700	555	79.3%	79.70%	81.60%

Level/Stage 2022	A	B	C	D	No Award	Grade A-B	Grade A-C	Grade A-D
National 5	(Nat. 41.20% A&B 35.40%)	(Nat. 23.00% A&B 25.57%)	(Nat. 17.43% A&B 18.69%)	(Nat. 10.79% A&B 12.73%)	(Nat. 7.60% A&B 7.60%)	(Nat. 64.20% A&B 61%)	(Nat. 81.60% A&B 79.70%)	(Nat. 92.4% A&B 92.4%)
National 5	39.14%	21.71%	16.43%	12.86%	7.86%	60.86%	77.29%	90.14%
S4	42.71%	23.44%	16.32%	10.24%	4.86%	66.15%	82.47%	92.71%
S5	18.48%	13.04%	18.48%	29.35%	20.65%	31.52%	50.00%	79.35%
S6	34.38%	15.63%	12.50%	12.50%	25.00%	50.00%	62.50%	75.00%
Higher	(Nat. 36.50% A&B 35.60%)	(Nat. 24.32% A&B 24.56%)	(Nat. 19.49% A&B 20.8%)	(Nat. 11.74% A&B 12.61%)	(Nat. 7.90% A&B 6.50%)	(Nat.60.90% (A&B 60.00%))	(Nat. 80.3% A&B 80.90%)	(Nat 92.10% A&B 93.50%)
Higher	28.66%	24.20%	25.48%	13.38%	8.28%	52.87%	78.34%	91.72%
S5	34.30%	24.64%	22.71%	11.11%	7.25%	58.94%	81.64%	92.75%
S6	17.76%	23.36%	30.84%	17.76%	10.28%	41.12%	71.96%	89.72%

Advanced Higher	(Nat 35.00% A&B 30.80%)	(Nat. 26.28% A&B 26.09%)	(Nat. 21.35% A&B 28.99%)	(Nat. 11.27% A&B 11.59%)	(Nat. 6.20% A&B 3.20%)	(Nat 61.2% A&B 56.7%)	Nat. 82.60% A&B 85.50%)	(Nat. 93.80% A&B 96.8%)
Advanced Higher	20.00%	28.89%	24.44%	26.67%	0.00%	48.89%	73.33%	100.00%
S5	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
S6	18.18%	29.55%	25.00%	27.27%	0.00%	47.73%	72.73%	100.00%

Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength

Our S4 attainment at National 5 level continues to be strong. We are above the National average and Argyll and Bute average for A and B passes, We also have a lower percentage of S4 pupils getting a No Award than the National average and the Argyll and Bute average.

Our S5 attainment at Higher level A-C passes is Higher than Argyll and Bute and the National average

The A-D pass rate at Advanced Higher is 100%

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development

Our National 5 performance in S5 and S6 needs to improve, Our school has been looking at appropriate pathways and alternative courses to ensure our young people are courses at the relevant level. Departments have been investigating possible alternatives using the SCQF framework.

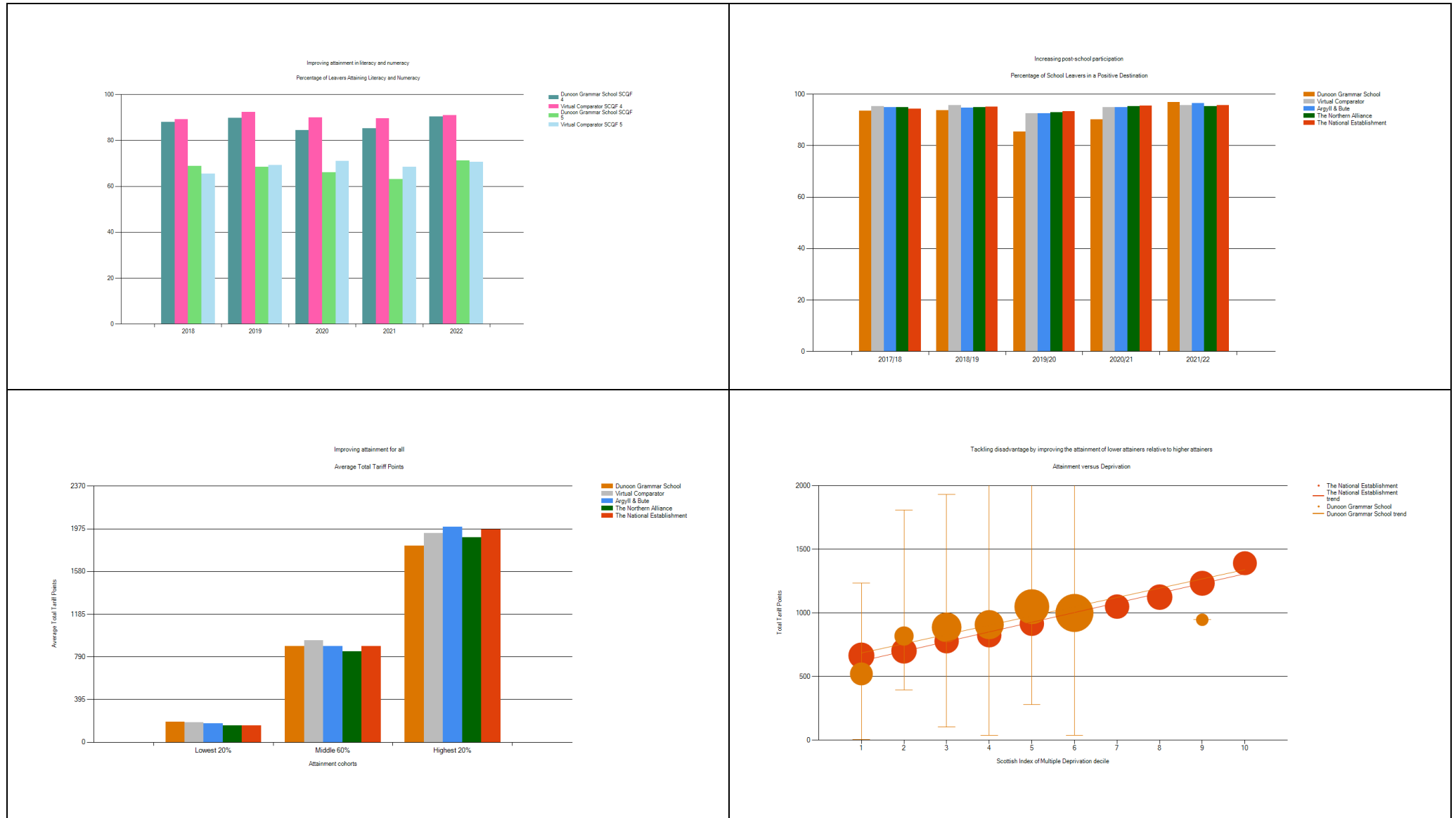
Our S5 and S6 performance at Higher level requires further development.

Our A-C pass rate performance at Advanced Higher requires further development

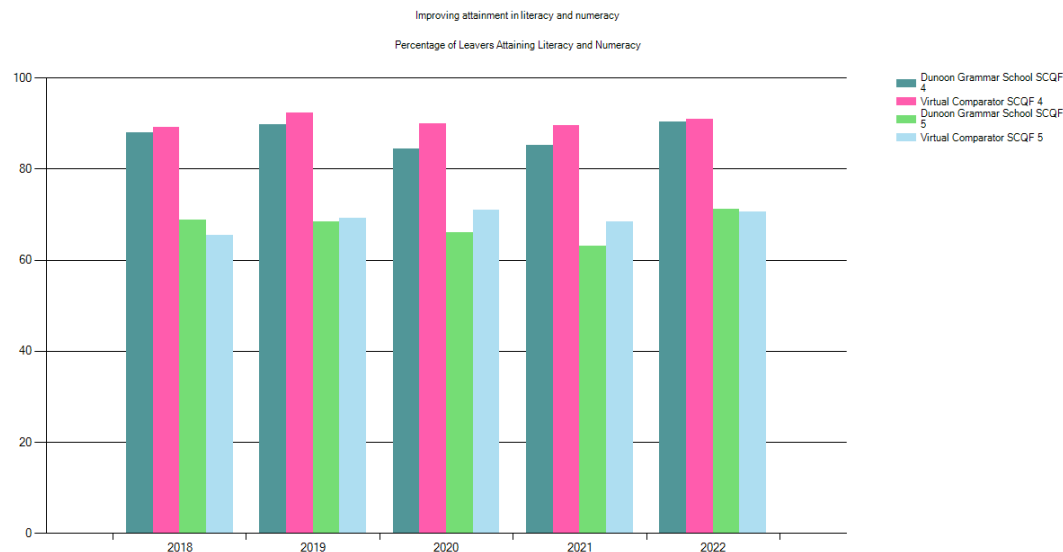
Insight Dashboard

What is Insight Scotland?

Insight is a professional tool, aimed at teachers and other staff. It is used to help secondary schools and local authorities identify areas of success and where improvements can be made for pupils in the senior phase. The dashboard has 4 measures.



Improving attainment in literacy and numeracy



Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength

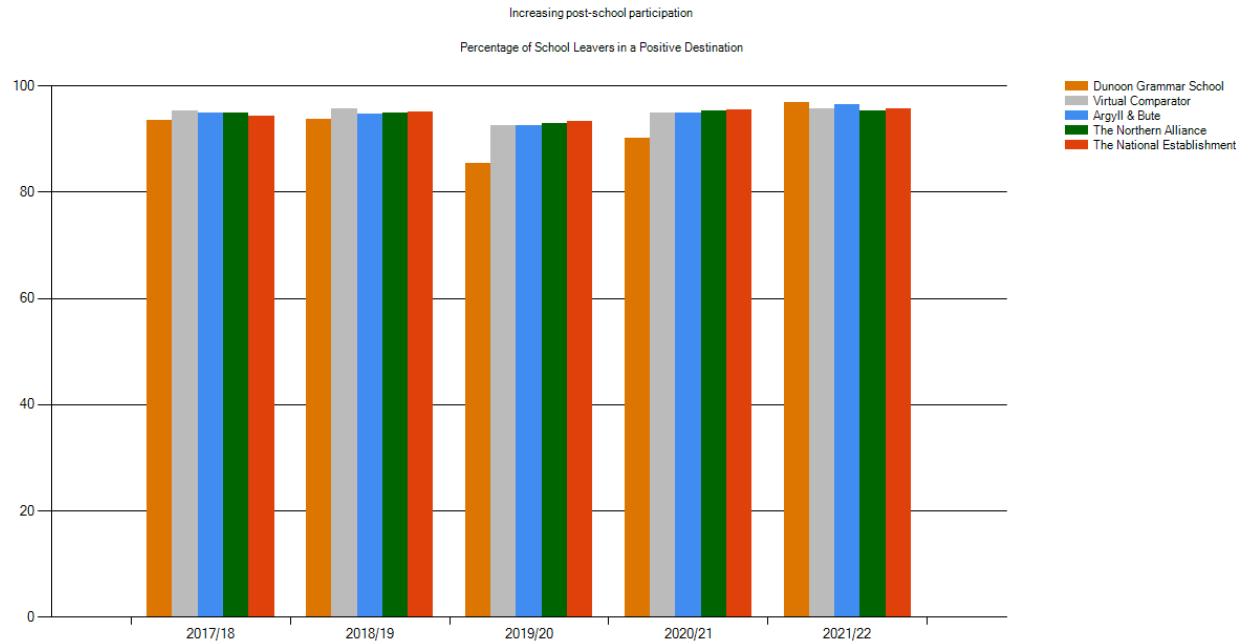
During session 2022-23 our overall performance in Literacy and Numeracy has improved from last year. We are now above our virtual comparator for those leavers achieving a Level 5 Literacy and Numeracy.

The Maths and English department have developed appropriate packages of support to ensure our young people achieve at least a level 4 Literacy and Numeracy qualification before their point of exit.

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development

We are just below our virtual comparator at level 4 Literacy and Numeracy although we have improved from session 2021. Further development is required to ensure improvement in our Literacy data. We have now implemented earlier banking of literacy and numeracy awards (start of S3) and more holistic tracking and monitoring of each pupil's achieved level of literacy and numeracy. We have also incorporated an 'upgrade' opportunity to ensure that pupils' achieved level is maximised.

Increased post-school participation



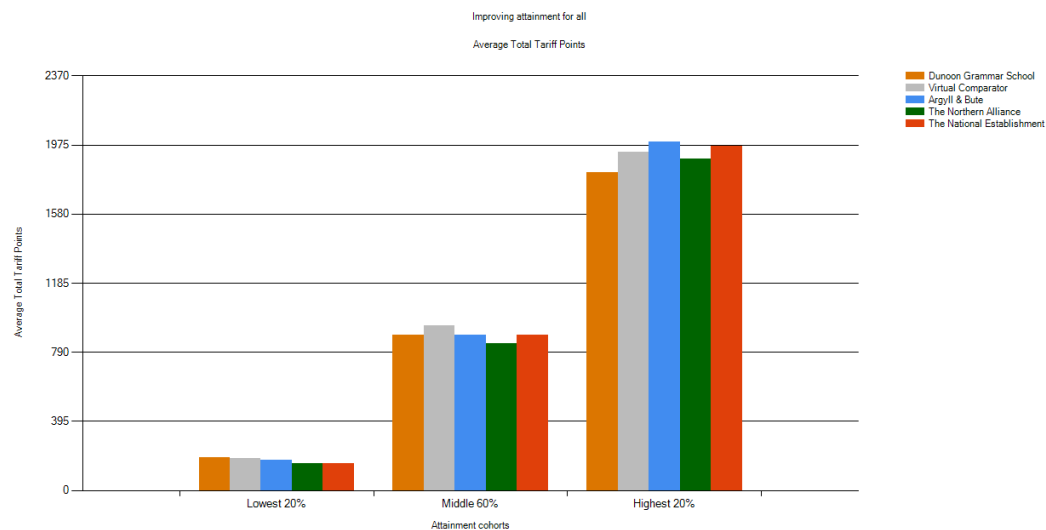
Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength

A great of interventions have been introduced to ensure our young people move onto a positive and sustained destination. The previous 4 years we were below our measures. However, this session our leavers data is better than our virtual comparator, Argyll and Bute, The Northern Alliance and the National establishment. We have educated our young people on different routes to employment, further and Higher Education. The appointment of a PT DYW has supported improvement.

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development

Continued work on Foundation apprenticeships is required within our school

Improving attainment for all



Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength

Our lowest 20% of learners have performed well. Their total tariff point is better than our virtual comparator, Argyll and Bute, The Northern Alliance and the National Establishment.

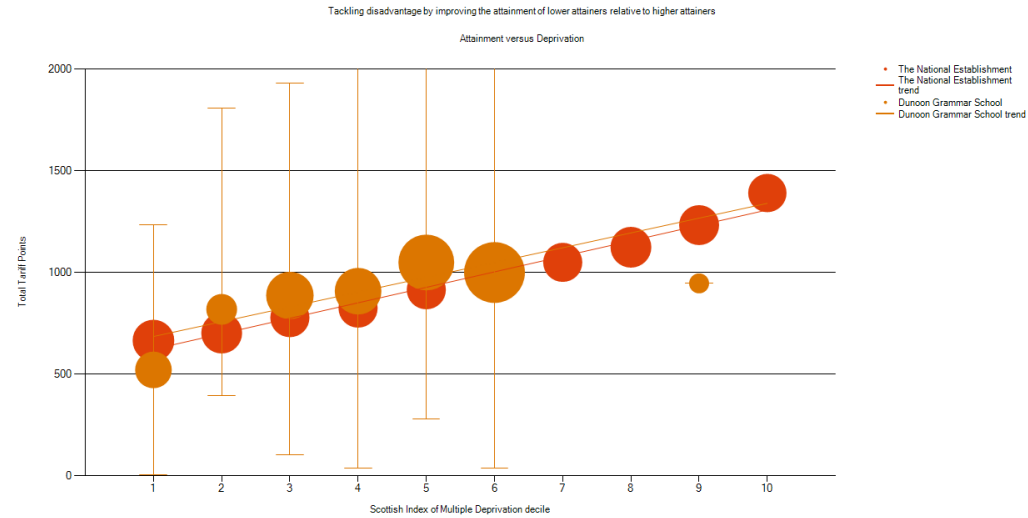
Our Middle 60% of learners have performed well. They have performed better than Argyll and Bute, The Northern Alliance and the National Establishment.

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development

Our Middle 60% of learners did not perform as well as our Virtual comparator.

Our Highest 20% of learners performed lower than our virtual comparator, Argyll and Bute council, The Northern Alliance and the National Establishment. Further development is required for our more able pupils.

Attainment versus Deprivation



Evaluative Comment – Areas of Strength

Young people in SIMD 2-6 performed better than the National trend

Evaluative Comment – Areas for Development

Young people in SIMD 1 and SIMD 9 performed lower than the National Trend. Work is ongoing to support our more able pupils and to ensure appropriate courses are available for our young people to study.

Wider Achievement Qualifications

National Certificates; Higher National Certificates; Scottish Vocational Qualifications; National Progression Awards; Skills for Work qualifications; Foundation Apprenticeships; Scottish Baccalaureate

Overall evaluative comment/narrative on Wider Achievement Qualifications in your school:

Dunoon Grammar School recognises the need to celebrate wider achievement both within school and out with school.

A member of teaching staff has been allocated the task of tracking the achievements of our young people. These achievements are celebrated in a number of ways. Termly, achievement assemblies are held for each year group, the Head Teacher regularly sends out praise letters to our young people and we have House notices boards that highlight achievements.

Our Business and Computing department have developed a large number of enterprising opportunities for our young people including, Apps for Good, YPI and the tenner challenge. The pupils thrive on these opportunities and have won a number of awards.

NPA – Computer games Development – 9 young people
NPA Drama – 2 young people
S4 Construction Craft Skills – 11 young people – 8 young people passed
Hairdressing National 4 and National 5 – 23 young people
Maritime National 5 – 5 young people – 1 pass
Early Education and Childcare National 4 – 10 passed
NPA Beauty Skills – 8 passed
NPA make up skills – 5 passed
Higher Beauty – 5 passed
Higher Psychology
Higher Sociology

Subject departments are now looking at alternative level 5 and level 6 qualifications. Time has been allocated at collegiate and staff development days. SCQF lead Donnie Woods will be attending In-service day in November. Time has been allocated for principal Teachers to meet with him and he will give a presentation to all staff.

We are introducing a new course called e-sports. This is being developed in partnership with SQA and will be at level 5 in the first instance.

SCHOOL/COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	2021-22 A-C (including Passes)			
	Number of Presentations	Number Attaining A-C	% Attaining A-C	% of those commencing college course completing course
Higher	15	9	60%	92%
National 5	15	11	73%	
National 4	29	23	79%	
SCHOOL/COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP NATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	2021-22 A-D (including Passes)			
	Number of Presentations	Number Attaining A-D	% Attaining A-D	% of those commencing course completing course
Higher	15	10	67%	92%
National 5	15	11	73%	
National 4	29	23	79%	

Equity and Attainment – Evaluation of Key Factors

Factor in attainment	
Attendance	School Ave. Att. 21-22: 88.48%
Exclusion	No. of Exclusion Incidents 21-22: 40% No. of Exclusion Openings 21-22: 89%
Additional Support Needs	354 young people have been classed with an additional Support Needs – 47%
SIMD	Our SIMD profile ranges from SIMD 1-SIMD 7
Free School Meal Entitlement	Number of pupils 148 - 19.73% of cohort
Care Experienced (and previously Care Experienced)	28 young people – 4% of cohort Young people's attainment is being tracked by the DHT support. Interventions have been put in place like in-school supporters
English as Additional Language	Young people's attainment is being tracked by the DHT support. Interventions have been put in place like in-school supporters We have allocated a member of our support staff to lead and support young people with English as an additional Language. Young people meet with the teacher in small groups and in one to one situation.
Other (give details)	

Pupil Equity Funding

We have used our Pupil Equity Funding to fund the following:

- Wellbeing Officer
- PT Learning and Teaching
- PT DYW
- PT raising attainment
- A youth worker
- A life Coach
- Live “n” learn inputs
- Individual support for young people with examination preparation

Other information

Dunoon Grammar School has had a positive and productive year. The school continues to develop confidence in our young people and ensure and develop them both academically and socially.

The school continues to be recognised at local, National and International Level.

- The school won the Scottish Education Award for Gaelic Education
- Our Gaelic Teacher Rachel Kellow won the Young Gaelic Ambassador at the National Gaelic awards
- Dunoon Grammar School was named as the “World’s Best School for Community collaboration”
- We continue to work with our community partners on a number of projects
 - Dunoon Burgh Hall
 - Dunoon Film festival
 - Our Local primary schools
 - Dunoon Museum
 - Historic Kilmun
 - Learning Centre activities
 - The Dunoon Project
- We continue to work with our National partners, The Wood Foundation and Apps for Good
- We continue to offer a wide range of Extra Curricular activities and school trips
- A group of our young people took part in a trip to Tanzania this session
- The Gaelic Department has been nominated and short listed for the Scottish Education Award for a 2nd year
- Our Head Teacher has been nominated and short listed for the Head Teacher of the Year at the Scottish Education awards